

## FROM MISSOURI.

**Rebels Taking Advantage of Free Trade—Whisky vs. Guerrillas—The Paw-Paw Militia—A New Civilizer—Political.**

From Our Special Correspondent.

ST. LOUIS, March 12, 1864.

Another illustration of the impolicy of removing restrictions on trade has just occurred. A second train of wagons loaded with munitions of war and other goods for the Rebels, has just been captured by our cavalry in South-East Missouri, near the Arkansas line. Five wagons were captured, loaded with a variety of supplies, valued, in the aggregate, at upward of \$5,000. The party in charge of the train were captured and brought as prisoners to Cape Girardeau. This second capture has satisfied Gen. Fisk, the commander of the district, that the advice given to Secretary Chase, that the trade restrictions might be safely removed, was sound; and the General has reimposed such restrictions, as a military necessity, upon trade in the district under his command. Every day proves more and more that free trade in Missouri is unsafe, and that there are hosts of Rebels who use the opportunity to ship dry goods, boots and shoes, and other articles for their men and supplies into the hands of their friends. Given free access to arms and cartridges, which will do the rest, and the result is a positive inducement to wicked men to make guerrilla forays for the purposes of plunder and perdition.

An instance of the powerful effect of whisky on the diseased imaginations of Rebels occurred near New Madrid, in this State. A old shiner living 10 miles from the city, became a member of the free-trade militia, and was sent to Memphis to recruit men and carried it to his home. About a fortnight ago a lot of Rebels snatched this whisky and cut-made a raid on the old man—27 of them pointed on him and killed him. Then they remained several days at his house, and it is stated that during this time they actually consumed the whole in barrels. Bewildered crazy drunk by the whisky, they conceived the bold plan of capturing a steamboat. They rode to the river and, with a courage worthy of better cause, made a dash at the steamer C. E. Hillman, loaded with troops. While the Hillman was shooting a party got on board, and the boat escaped into the stream. The soldiers were around the steamer, and the rebels, who had not yet been paid, were scattered.

Every reflecting mind must see that these events will powerfully contribute to destroy prejudice, to produce a common language, and a lasting peace.

We may look on this matter with surprise, but history is repeating itself. It is attributable to the whisky imported from St. Louis, by the removal of Secretary Chase's wholesome restrictions, which were adopted to satisfy the clamor of Conservative Pro-Slavery merchants of St. Louis.

Gen. Rosecrans is about to deal harshly with the Paw-Paw Militia organized by Gov. Gamble's authority in the North-Western portion of the State. Fearing Gen. Rosecrans, it was decided by the St. Louis "Daily Democrat," that the Paw-Paws had been badly handled, but that they have surely quit active service as a regular organization. The organization is intact, and has possession of State Arms still. A letter from a distinguished military official in that section has been received by Gen. Rosecrans, stating that the Rebels are recruiting men direct from the Paw-Paws to go after us, and that it is feared that they will not only go south themselves, but take the arms of the rebels with them. The rebels, it is stated, are aiming at avoiding any conflict with the State Government concerning the Paw-Paws but his duty is to see that he can no longer hesitate to suppress this irregular militia as dangerous to the Government of the Union, and the peace of Missouri. This is one of the rules of the divine institution which ought to be blotted out immediately.

The country so long infested by Quantrell's guerrillas between Georgetown and Kansas City, is being patrolled by Gen. Wade and Jackson's Com. is about to be reduced by a heavy hand. The Missouri Pacific Railroad is going westward from Dresden to Kansas City as fast as the labor of men and the use of capital can carry it. The route has been graded and a large number of the road already, but the scarcity of labor prevents the accomplishment of the work as rapidly as the company desires. The working parties are armed, and prepared to defend themselves against guerrillas. Cavalry patrols have been furnished by the Government, and the extension will shortly be completed to Warrensburg, only 40 miles from Kansas City. This portion of Missouri has been greatly devastated by the movements of the armies, and the restoration of the railroad is of immense importance to its restoration to the blessings of peace and prosperity.

Cotton in Memphis was still declining, having fallen one cent on all qualities, with little offering and no disposition to buy. Good Middling, 56 cents; middling, 55 cents.

A Rebel force, estimated at 7,000 men with artillery under Gen. Forrest, advanced northward as far as O'Brien River last night. At three o'clock this morning their advance drove in our pickets south of Union City.

The latter in the morning cut off communication with Columbus, Ky., by destroying the railroad, cutting the telegraph wires and burning the bridges. Our forces have been gone to meet them.

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The steamer Silver Moon, from Memphis on the 2d, passed up this morning for Cincinnati with 1,700 bales of cotton, a large lot of other freight, and many passengers.

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